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1. HB 4- Omnibus Drunk Driving Amendments – Hearing scheduled 3/16

HEARING: (H) JUD Mar 16 1:00 PM CAPITOL 120 TELECONFERENCE

Link to text and fiscal notes: http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=22&bill=HB4

2. KNOWLES, AFN CALL FOR INCREASED SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS (Press Release 2/23/01) - Funds Requested in FY02 Budget to Support Community Efforts

Calling for a strong and unified response to the ongoing crisis of suicide in Alaska, Gov. Tony Knowles today laid the groundwork for the development of a suicide prevention action plan for Alaska in partnership with local communities and Native organizations.

"The situation calls for strong leadership by all our elected officials and other community leaders," said Knowles. "Alaska's suicide rate is more than twice the national average. And suicide rates are not evenly distributed among the state's citizens. Rates of suicide are even higher among Alaska Native males and young Alaskans."

Knowles called for a collaborative statewide effort to support community programs aimed at suicide prevention and to support these statewide efforts, Knowles included \$325,000 in the fiscal year 2002 budget.

In collaboration with the Alaska Mental Health Trust, Knowles and the Alaska Federation of Natives are calling for the formation of a Suicide Prevention Council, to shoulder the responsibility for developing a suicide prevention action plan for Alaska. They also want to designate a Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinator, who will provide a statewide focus for suicide prevention efforts.

"I commend Gov. Knowles for taking a proactive step on this serious issue," said Julie Kitka, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives. "Every suicide is a tragedy for families and communities. We want our people to make positive choices with their lives, and we appreciate the Governor's strong support."

Rural communities that want to get involved in suicide prevention have asked for the State's assistance. To respond to their requests, community-based suicide prevention funds will be used to support suicide prevention summits, conferences, healing workshops, and training that helps people learn what they can do to help prevent suicide.

"These funds sought by the Governor will help communities that have high suicide rates or that are at high risk of losing citizens to suicide," said Commissioner Karen Perdue of Health and Social Services. "The funds will also bring Alaskans together to tackle the difficult but important challenge of suicide prevention."

Noting that the urgency of the situation in Interior Alaska, Knowles also requested \$600,000 to replace the mental health center in Galena. Galena's mental health clinic is currently located in an old trailer that is icy in the winter, subject to frozen pipes and suffers from structural weaknesses. Without adequate soundproofing between the waiting area and offices, the office lacks the privacy necessary at administer mental health services. The City of Galena requested the funds to replace the trailer with an addition to its existing health center to provide adequate mental health care to the community.

The problem of suicide has long been recognized in Alaska. For the past 10 years, there has been an average of about 130 suicides per year in the state. "Most suicides are preventable tragedies," said Perdue. "Many communities have on-going, effective suicide prevention programs. Our goal is to assist communities and Native organizations that ask us to support their efforts, and to work with them to prevent suicide."

For more information contact Susan Soule, suicide prevention program coordinator, at 907-269-3790; or contact Julie Hammonds Penn, special assistant to Commissioner Perdue, at 907-465-1612. Release 01060

link: www.gov.state.ak.us/press/01060.html

3. Kids Don't Float - website!

CHEMS has put together a webpage about Kids Don't Float. It provides a brief overview, a list of communities with active loaner boards, and a link to our recent newsletter, "Float Notes." Check it out!

http://chems.alaska.gov/kids_don't_float.htm

4. Training available in Child Passenger Safety in ALASKA

Two types of courses in Child Passenger Safety are planned during April/May/June/September 2001 (4-day Technician Training and 2-day Introductory Course)

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION TRAINING (receive NHTSA certification as a Technician upon successful completion)

- * May 8-11, Ketchikan 4-day training followed by Child Car Seat Check on May 12 at Lewis Motors in Ketchikan. Contact Colleen McNulty (907-465-3353) for more information
- * May 15-18, Anchorage 4-day training followed by Child Car Seat Check on May 19 in Anchorage, Alaska Sales and Service, Contact Gordon Glaser (907-269-3433) or Peggy Hayashi (907-261-3194) for more information.
- * Sept 2-5, Anchorage 4-day training followed by Child Car Seat Check on Sept 6 in Anchorage, Alaska Sales and Service, Contact Gordon Glaser (907-269-3433) or Peggy Hayashi (907-261-3194) for more information.

Note: limited travel scholarships for a 4-day class are available from CHEMS. Contact David Thomson at 907-465-8632.

CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY - 2-DAY CAR SEAT CLASS (this is an introductory class - does not award Technician certification)

- * April 19-20 Anchorage followed by a Child Passenger Car Seat Check on Saturday, April 21 Alaska Sales and Service
- * May 24-25, Petersburg, following by a Child Car Seat Check on May 26. Local contact Dena Budinger (907-772-3488). Contact Colleen McNulty (907-465-3353) for more information
- * June 7-8, Juneau, following by a Child Car Seat Check on June 9 at Capital Chevrolet (formally Lewis Motors). Contact Colleen McNulty (907-465-3353) for more information

From the NHTSA website: Child Passenger Safety Training Programs www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps/Training/index.html

5. AMSEA – Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

"The Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA) was founded in 1985 to create a cold water safety information and training network throughout Alaska and the West Coast. Our goal is: To reduce loss of life and injury due to hypothermia and drowning in cold water environments through public education and training.

To date, AMSEA has trained over 400 instructors. Each year this network of instructors, supported by AMSEA with equipment and educational materials, provides cold-water safety education to more than 5,000 school children, commercial fishermen, recreational boaters and agency personnel.

Our education and training is based on practical information delivered in a hands-on format. It has been proven effective at saving lives and reducing injuries."

Text quoted from their homepage. Check out this great Alaskan resource: www.amsea.org

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6. SAAC - Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center

"The Southeast Alaska Avalanche Center is an educational nonprofit corporation which provides snow avalanche safety education and information for our region, from Yakutat to Ketchikan. We conduct a variety of courses, workshops, and trainings; serve as an information source for interviews and other media contacts; and provide avalanche expertise for the general public, specific projects, and emergencies. Our programs are particularly strong in the areas of urban, highway, snowmobile, snowboard, and heli-ski avalanche safety. We do not issue avalanche forecasts at present, though we hope to add regular forecasting to our programs in the future, as funding permits."

Text quoted from their homepage. Check them out: http://www.avalanche.org/~seaac/

7. ICE – Thickness guidelines and Basic Ice Facts

Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness (Rough Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only)
Source: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources www.ccso-ccom.ca/contents.htm

2" or less – STAY OFF! 4" – Ice Fishing 5" – snowmachine or ATV 8-12" – car or small pickup 12-15" – medium truck

More on ice...

"When is Ice Safe? There is no sure answer. Ice is tricky, and just because a lake or stream is frozen doesn't mean the ice is safe"

text quoted from the City of Yellowknife homepage. full text found: http://ice.ssimicro.com/lce Facts/ice facts.html

8. TIPP - Injury Prevention Counseling in the Health Care Setting – Starter Kit Available from CHEMS

In April 1983, the American Academy of Pediatrics initiated The Injury Prevention Program – TIPP – for children from birth to 4 years of age. In October 1988 TIPP was expanded to include

children from 5 to 12 years of age. In 1994 it was revised and updated to reflect the current pattern of childhood injuries.

TIPP is designed to provide a systematic method for health practitioners to counsel parents and children about adopting behaviors to prevent injuries – behaviors that are effective and capable of being accomplished by most families.

The number 1 recommendation from the report, "The Future of Children: Unintentional Injuries in Childhood," prepared by The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Spring/Summer 2000 (complete text can be found at www.futureofchildren.org/uic/index.htm) states the following:

"Pediatricians and other health care providers should incorporate education about safety practices into routine health visits using positive behavioral counseling."

Section of Community Health & EMS (CHEMS) has purchased from AAP a supply of sample kits for TIPP titled: "A Guide To Safety Counseling in Office Practice."

Contact CHEMS at 907-465-4170 or maria bailey@health.state.ak.us to request a sample kit.

9. Tenth International Conference on Safe Communities – Anchorage, May 21-23, 2001 – register online!

The Alaska Injury Prevention Center is proud to host the Tenth International Conference on Safe Communities, Safe Comm-10, here in Anchorage, on May 21-23, 2001.

For more information and online registration, click the following: www.alaska-ipc.org/safecomm.htm

Marcia Rom The Alaska Injury Prevention Center, PO Box 210736, Anchorage, Alaska USA 99521-0736, Email to: marcia_rom@hotmail.com

The Center's telephone is 1-907-929-3939, and fax is 1-907-929-3940.

10. CPSC, McDonald's Announce Recall of "Scooter Bug" Happy Meal Toys

Text w/ photo: http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01099.html

WASHINGTON, D.C.- In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), McDonald's Corp., Oakbrook, Ill., is voluntarily recalling about 234,000 "Scooter Bug" toys. The toys were distributed with McDonald's Happy Meals for children under 3 years of age. The bug's antenna can break off, posing a choking hazard to young children.

McDonald's has received two reports of children choking and one report of a child gagging on the broken off antenna.

The Scooter Bug toy is about 3 inches long and 2 1/2 inch wide. When rolled across the floor, the bug's legs move back and forth. The bug has a yellow face with red antennas, orange feet and a purple body with green spots. The words "Fisher Price" are on the top of the toy. The words "MFG.FOR MCD CORP.CHINA" are on the rear of the toy.

McDonald's restaurants in the U.S. and Canada distributed the toys with Happy Meals from November 2000 through February 2001.

Parents should take the toy away from children immediately and return the toy to any McDonald's restaurant for a replacement toy. For more information, consumers should visit McDonald's web site at www.mcdonalds.com. Questions about this recall should be directed to CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772.

11. CPSC, Burger King and Alcone Announce Recall of Kid's Meal Toys

Text w/ photo: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01100.html

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Burger King Corp., of Miami, Fla., and Alcone Marketing Group, of Irvine, Calif., are recalling about 400,000 "Rattling, Paddling Riverboat" toddler toys because of a potential choking hazard to young children. The toys were distributed in Burger King Kid's Meals. Metal pins with plastic caps that attach the paddle wheel to the riverboat toy can come out and pose a choking hazard.

Burger King Corp. has received 10 reports that the pin on the toy came out. One child was found with the pin in her mouth. Her father removed it and no injuries have been reported.

Alcone Marketing Group imported the toys for Burger King. The "Rattling, Paddling Riverboat" toys are red plastic boats about 2 to 3 inches in diameter. The captain figure squeaks when it is pushed down. When the boat is moved across the floor, beads in the boat's paddle wheel make a rattle sound. The following words are imprinted on the bottom of the boat, "Sassy, MFG FOR BURGER KING CORP, MADE IN CHINA." The packaging says "Toddler Toys For Kids Under Three Years Old."

Burger King restaurants nationwide distributed the riverboat toys inside Kid's Meals in January and February 2001.

Parents should immediately take the toy away from children and call (800) 661-9173 for instructions on returning the toy for a free, replacement toy. Information also is available at Burger King's web site at www.burgerking.com.

12. HBO Documentary - Suicide - Sunday, March 18, 10 PM Eastern/Pacific

HBO and Outreach Extensions received background and resource content information from the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program for their upcoming special documentary on "Suicide".

The documentary will air nationwide on HBO this Sunday, March 18, 2001 at 10 pm Eastern/Pacific (9 PM in Alaska ??). There are two additional play times on HBO Plus -March 19 at 11 pm and March 23 at 10 pm (check local listings). For more information, please visit the documentary's web page at www.hbo.com/suicide.

13. Injury Prevention Seminar Series – Available on the Web

The Center for Injury Research and Control at the University of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that our recently concluded Injury Epidemiology Seminar Series is now fully accessible on the Web in streaming media RealPlayer Format:

www.circl.pitt.edu/home/seminar%20archive.htm

Fourteen presentations, each about an hour long, can be accessed in either high (audio, video and PowerPoint graphics) or low bandwidth versions (audio and graphics only). In addition, most original PowerPoint presentations are available to browse while watching or listening to the recorded lectures.

Presentations cover a variety of topics, aimed at different levels of expertise, and are given by local and national speakers. They include:

- 1. Injury as a Public Health Issue (series introduction)
- 2. Sentinel Event Community Research Teams (youth violence prevention) Fred Smith
- 3. Sports-related Concussion, Physiology, Epidemiology & Return to Play Policies Michael Collins
- 4. The Local Perspective, Evaluation of a County Bicycle Safety Campaign Emma Jones
- 5. Alcohol & Injury Epidemiology Linda Degutis
- 6. Development of the National Firearm Surveillance System Jim Mercy
- 7. Riding in the Rear (Ninos Atras) Community-Based Intervention Trial Susan Gallagher
- 8. Traumatic Brain Injury in the United States Jean Langlois
- 9. EMS Vehicle Transport Safety Nadine Levick (not archived)
- 10. Measuring Injury Severity Ellen Mackenzie
- 11. Allegheny County Firearm Injury Surveillance Jeffrey Coben
- 12. Injuries to Adolescent Workers Dawn Castillo
- 13. Evidence-Based Reviews of Injury Interventions: What Works & What Does Not Diane Thompson
- 14. Effects of Police Gun Suppression Patrols on Shots Fired & Injuries: Estimating Impacts of Naturally Occurring Interventions Jacqueline Cohen
- 15. Technology & Role of Probabilistic Data Linkage in Injury Surveillance & Research Michael Dean

It is difficult to estimate exactly how many simultaneous streams our Real Server will support, so if you have trouble linking to a lecture, please try again in a few hours. Any feedback on the usefulness of this series to you or your organization and comments on the presentation format would also be appreciated.

Our sincere thanks to all the presenters and their organizations for making their talks accessible over the Internet. Thanks also to CDC/NCIPC for providing partial funding and support of this effort through the training component of our Injury Research Center grant and the Epidemiology Department for co-sponsoring this series.

Yours Truly,

Don Marion, MD Director and Hank Weiss MPH, PhD Associate Director Seminar Coordinator Center for Injury Research and Control

14. CDC Publication: U.S. Fall Prevention Programs for Seniors - Selected Programs Using Home Assessment and Modification

Publication available at the CDC website: www.cdc.gov/ncipc/falls/default.htm

15. Play Yards/Cribs - Recent Death Prompts Search for Recalled Play Yards/Cribs Baby Trend Launches New Effort to Find Those Still in Use

Text w/ photo and streaming video: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01094.html

WASHINGTON, D.C.- In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Baby Trend Inc. of Ontario, Calif., is repeating its announcement of the 1995 recall of Home and Roam and Baby Express portable cribs/play yards. These cribs/play yards can collapse and entrap an infant.

In January 2001, a 9-month-old baby in Longview, Wash., died of asphyxiation when her neck was caught in the V-shape created by the collapsed sides of her crib/play yard. There have been three other deaths and three reports of babies found not breathing (who were revived) associated with these products.

In 1995 Baby Trend offered a free repair for the cribs/play yards. To encourage consumers to search for these recalled cribs/play yards, Baby Trend is now offering a free, new play yard to consumers who find and return the recalled product. Baby Trend is launching a new effort to reach caregivers by including flyers in new products and putting notices in newsletters distributed by child advocacy organizations. This summer, recall posters will be displayed in post offices around the country.

There were 100,000 "Home and Roam" and "Baby Express" portable cribs/play yards sold between 1992 and 1994. The crib/play yard can appear to be set up properly even if the top rails are not fully locked. If the crib/play yard is not set up so that each top rail is securely locked in position, a baby can be caught by the neck and strangle.

All Home and Roam and Baby Express model cribs/play yards are recalled (recall information can be found on Baby Trend's web site at http://www.babytrend.com/recall2.jpg). The words "Home and Roam" or "Baby Express" and "Baby Trend" appear along the top rails. The cribs/play yards were priced from \$60 to \$130 and were sold nationwide from 1992 to 1994. Consumers should search their homes and day care centers for these portable cribs/play yards. Stop using them immediately and call Baby Trend toll-free at (800) 328-7363 to get a free, new play yard. Baby Trend portable cribs/play yards sold since 1994 have different side rails and are not recalled.

CPSC has previously announced the recall of several other portable cribs/play yards with rotating top rails that can collapse and entrap a child in the folded top rails. CPSC is aware of 14 deaths to children when the top rails of play yards collapsed. A new safety standard requires that the top rails of play yards automatically lock into place when the unit is fully set up. In addition to the Baby Trend "Home and Roam" and "Baby Express" models, CPSC obtained voluntary recalls of the following play yards with top rails that people had to turn into place when setting up the unit: Evenflo "Happy Camper, Happy Cabana, and Kiddie Camper;" Century Models 10-710 and 10-810; and Kolcraft "Playskool Travel-Lite Model." CPSC also issued a safety warning about All Our Kids Models 742 and 762 play yards imported by a firm that is out of business.

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16. CPSC, Graco Announce Recall of Highchairs

Text w/ photo and streaming video: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01088.html

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Graco Children's Products Inc., of Elverson, Pa., is voluntarily recalling about 860,000 highchairs. The chair's legs can come out, causing the chair to fall to the ground. Children can suffer serious injuries from the fall.

Graco has received 108 reports of the highchair legs coming out of the seat, including 105 injuries. Injuries have included a mild concussion, two broken noses, six cuts requiring stitches, black eyes, and bumps and bruises.

The model and serial numbers of these Graco highchairs are located on a sticker beneath the seat. The model number contains "3170," "36051" or "74001" within it. The first six numbers in the serial number indicate the date of manufacture. The recalled highchairs were manufactured from January 1, 1995 through December 8, 1997 (or from 010195 through 120897). The highchairs are made of a white plastic seat with white metal legs, and "Graco" is printed on the front of the tray. Mass merchandise, juvenile products and discount department stores nationwide sold these highchairs from January 1995 through June 1998 for between \$30 and \$35.

Consumers should stop using the highchairs immediately and call Graco at (800) 617-7447 anytime to receive a free repair kit. Additional information is available at www.gracobaby.com under Customer Service/Recall Information. Consumers also can write to Customer Affairs, Graco Children's Products, Inc., Box 100, Elverson, PA 19520. Consumers should have the highchair in front of them when they call Graco.

Highchairs with push pins on the legs that snap into the seat are not part of this recall.

17. CPSC, Simmons Announce Recall to Repair Cribs

Text w/ photo and streaming video: www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml01/01087.html

WASHINGTON, D.C.- In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), Simmons Juvenile Products, of New London, Wis., is voluntarily recalling more than 68,600 cribs for repair. Bracket hooks that are used to position the height of the mattress can break, causing the mattress to collapse. Babies can become trapped and suffocate when this happens.

In the past four months, Simmons has received more than 800 reports of bracket hooks breaking. In one case, a 6-month-old hit his chin on the side rail when the mattress dropped.

Simmons is offering a free repair kit, which includes replacement brackets and instructions. The repair can be made easily in the home.

Most of the recalled Simmons cribs were made in 1998. Those sold at Sears were made in 1998, 1999 and 2000. Only "98" cribs of all models are recalled, except for Sears cribs. For Sears cribs (which are model numbers 025260 and 065060), the years "98" "99" and "00" are recalled because the problem bracket hooks were used all three years. The brackets on all other Simmons cribs except for Sears changed to different type attachments after 1998. The cribs were sold under the name "Little Folks". Simmons and the two-digit year of manufacture are written on a label affixed to the crib's headboard. The year is the two-digit number following the model number. "Little Folks" is on another label affixed to the headboard. The cribs are constructed of maple or ash, and are painted or stained in more than a dozen different colors, including natural, golden and white. "Simmons" is written on the top rail. Simmons will help consumers identify if their crib is recalled.

Discount, mass merchandise, juvenile product and department stores, including Sears, sold the cribs nationwide from January 1998 through December 2000 for between \$200 and \$600.

Consumers should stop using these recalled cribs immediately and contact Simmons to receive free replacement brackets by overnight mail. Consumers can contact Simmons anytime at (800) 421-2951 or at www.simmonsjp.com/recall.cfm

This message has been compiled and sent to subscribers of the AK-Prev, AHELP, AK-EMSC list-serves by the Section of Community Health & EMS (CHEMS), Alaska Division of Public Health. It has also been sent as a "bcc" to others in Alaska including Public Health Centers, SAFE KIDS coalitions, Native Health organizations, Alaska Injury Prevention Center, and regional EMS Councils and Coordinators who may be interested and active in injury prevention and health promotion. The purpose is to share resources, breaking news, training opportunities, product recalls, and opinion to help prevent injuries to Alaskans. Feedback and contributions are encouraged.

link for the AK-Prev & AK-EMSC list-serve: http://chems.alaska.gov/ems_list_servers.htm link for the AHELP list-serve: http://www.auroraweb.com/ahec/